

REMARKS

Pending in the present application are Claims 1-4, 6, and 8-17. Claims 5 and 7 are cancelled without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer of the Applicants' right to present a claim directed to the subject matter recited in these claims in this application or in other continuing applications.

Specification

Applicants have amended the first paragraph of the specification to clarify the relationship between the present application which is a divisional of currently pending patent application U.S. Application No. 09/435,657 which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 08/607,964, now U.S. Patent No. 5,983,068 filed February 29, 1996. As such, Applicants believe the present application should receive a priority date of February 29, 1996. Support of such a relationship is included in a request for a corrected filing receipt for the present application which was requested by the Applicants with the Office of Initial Patent Examination. A copy of the request is included herein.

Drawings

Figure 10 is cancelled without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer of the Applicants' right to present a figure directed to the subject matter depicted in this figure in this application or in other continuing applications. Since Figure 10 was the last Figure, no other figures were replaced or renumbered

Claims

The claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a), (b), and (e), 103(a), and for obviousness type double patenting over Tomich et al. (International Publication No. WO 98/53610).

Based on the rationale presented above and information submitted to the Office of Initial Patent Examination, Applicants believe the present application properly should receive a priority date of February 29, 1996. As such, Applicants respectfully request

that Tomich should not be used as a reference against the present application and such claim rejections should be lifted.

Claims 5 and 7 were cancelled. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings based on claim 7 be lifted.

Applicants believe the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request they be passed to allowance.

A check for \$60 is included to cover a one month extension of time.

If the Examiner has any other matters which pertain to this Application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to resolve these matters by Examiner's Amendment where possible.

Respectfully Submitted,


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